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Inside Information

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NEW YEAR BRINGS NEW LOOK FOR "INSIDE"

The first issue of "Inside Information" for 1981 takes on a new look.

We hope you like the two-column format, a format recommended by designers and used by more and more newsletters.

INFORMATION SURVEY UNDERWAY IN USDA

USDA's Office of Governmental and Public Affairs has initiated a comprehensive survey of USDA's public information and public affairs activities.

Information gained in the survey will be used in conducting a more thorough study and in preparing a detailed report to the appropriations committees in the U.S. Congress.

The Senate Committee on Appropriations, in its report on USDA appropriations for fiscal year 1981, directs USDA to conduct a study of all field and regional information activities in the department and its agencies.

A final report is to be submitted to the appropriation committees of both the Senate and the House by summer.

In addition to requesting completion of a five-part survey by each agency, GPA also asked for written information workplans for the fiscal year from each agency.

ELECTRONIC LIBRARY WORKSHOPS. SLATED

The Technical Information Systems (National Agricultural Library) of USDA's Science and Education Administration is sponsoring an intensive five-day introductory workshop to train librarians and information specialists in the efficient use of TIS' information systems and services.

The workshop will emphasize online access to the CRIS (current research information) and AGRICOLA (agricultural

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DRUMBEAT FOR AG RESEARCH PLANNED

Claude Gifford and Ted Crane of USDA's Office of Governmental and Public Affairs will soon convene a committee from GPA and USDA agencies heavy in research to lay out ways to increase popularization of agricultural research.

Likely agencies represented on the committee will be the Science and Education Administration, Agricultural Marketing Service, Economics and Statistics Service, Forest Service and Soil Conservation Service.

The USDA action follows up the recent U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations report which requested GPA to head up such an effort.

ILLINOIS INFORMATION CHIEF IN WASHINGTON

John Ochs, information director for the Illinois Department of Agriculture, is on detail in Washington, D.C.

The "detail" is helping out his boss, the former director of the Illinois Department of Agriculture and U.S. Secretary of Agriculture-designate John R. Block.

First assignment was helping with news coverage of the Secretary-designate's Senate confirmation hearing.

Rumors are that more will be seen and heard from Ochs in and around USDA during the weeks and months ahead.

SOUTHERN AG COMMUNICATORS TO MEET

The 1981 meeting of the Southern agricultural research communicators will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, February 1-3.

The communications sessions will be held as part of the 78th annual meeting of the Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists.

Dot Yandle of Clemson University and Alan Fletcher of University of Georgia are preparing the workshop program.

The communications sessions will be held in the Atlanta Biltmore Hotel, which is the headquarters hotel for the SAAS meeting and
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WESTERN GARDEN WRITERS TO MEET

The Western Garden Writers Symposium is scheduled to hold its 1981 annual meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, October 9-12.

The writers group is headed by Honolulu-based garden writer-broadcaster Fortunato Teho.

WGWS is an association of about 200 garden communicators from 13 western states.

For additional information, write to Teho at 1778 Ala Moana Boulevard, Honolulu, Hawaii 96815, or call at (808) 941-2102.

VIDEOTAPE DESCRIBES LIBRARY SERVICES

The Technical Information Systems of USDA's Science and Education Administration says it has available for loan a 20-minute color videotape describing its information systems and services.

The videotape, called "The Information Cycle," describes AGRICOLA (agriculture literature) and CRIS (current research information) data bases, CALS (current awareness literature), FNIC (food and nutrition information services) and document delivery systems of the National Agricultural Library.

Copies of the tape, in 3/4-inch cassette, are available from the Educational Resources Division, Technical Information Systems, SEA-USDA, Room 408, National Agricultural Library, Beltsville, Maryland 20705. Or call David Hoyt at (301) 344-3937.

(Electronic Library - Continued)

literature) data bases, as well as the provision of CALS (current awareness literature) service.

The course will be held January 26-30 in the downtown branch of the National Agricultural Library in USDA's South Building.

Those wishing to attend the course should contact David Hoyt, Education Resources Division, TIS-SEA, USDA, Room 408, National Agricultural Library, Beltsville, Maryland 20705. Or call Hoyt at (301) 344-3937.

POSITION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA OPEN

Anyone interested in an extension communications specialist job in Lesotho in southern Africa?

Washington State University has announced the two-year position on a farming research project, beginning July 1, 1981. The individual selected will be the education specialist on a nine-person team.

The position will be located in Maseru, the capitol of Lesotho. Living accommodations for a family are quite good.

Additional information may be obtained from Dr. Wayne Bath, project director, at Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99164. His telephone is (509) 335-2511.

Deadline for applications is March 1, 1981.

INFORMATION POSITIONS IN USDA ANNOUNCED

Economics and Statistics Service has two information openings.

One is for a GS-12 or GS-13 public information specialist (radio-TV) to head up ESS' radio-television section. Deadline for applications is January 26.

Another ESS job is a part-time (not to exceed 32 hours per week) GS-5 or GS-7 writer-editor. Deadline for applications is January 12.

For further information, contact ESS information director Ben Blankenship at 447-4230. Applications must be sent to Phil Lando, ESS Personnel Division, Room 1459, South Building, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250.

Agricultural Marketing Service has two writer-editor positions open.

Both are GS-9, GS-11 or GS-12 jobs, except one is a regular GS-1082 writer-editor and the other is a GS-1083 technical publications writer-editor.

For further information, contact AMS information director Lew Brodsky at 447-6766. Applications must be sent to Harriet Worley, AMS Personnel Division, Room 1746-S, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250.

Deadline for applications for both positions is January 26.

(Southern Ag Communicators - Continued)

where a press office will be set up.

Eleven other disciplines will hold sessions in the Biltmore and two other large hotels nearby. This is a big annual event, with a long tradition.
